

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C.
FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1871.

ORDER is being restored in Paris. The people have suffered so terribly that they will do anything for peace. The city is already crowded with returning citizens and strangers, which is a sure sign that tranquility has been restored to the great capital. We are told also that the Long-champs races will soon be re-established. As regards the Government and its doings, we hear that the resignation of Favre has been handed in, that the Prince de Joinville has been elected from several districts, and has chosen to represent Marne in the Assembly, and that the Assembly will soon adjourn.

To Governor Caldwell,

In directing the special attention of our readers thereto, we hope we do not take too much liberty in calling to the notice of His Excellency the letter of our correspondent, "Peter Parker." There is much food for reflection in the facts presented, not unworthy the notice of Governor CALDWELL himself.

The Governor has given the assurance that he is interested in the welfare of the State only, and in the exercise of the high functions of his office ignores his party feelings. He courts, he says, the opinions of, and advice from, all good citizens. Then let him read "Peter Parker's" letter. He will find how "the situation" impresses itself upon one of his fellow-citizens—an intelligent and observant gentleman—a man who mingles much with the people—entirely free from party prejudices—who never held a political office, and is in no sense of the word a politician.

It will not do to say that his views are untrue, prejudiced or exaggerated, however dark the picture is which is drawn. Those who think so do not themselves comprehend the real condition of affairs in North Carolina, and to such the reading of the letter will be of no advantage. But those who really love North Carolina and desire to promote the interests of her people more than the interests of a party, will find much in the letter which will prove of value.

If we know and appreciate the difficulties by which we are surrounded, our troubles are already half overcome—the victory half won. Men who are not blinded by prejudice and selfishness, will not long continue in a path which must lead to ruin. The trouble has been that those who directed public affairs in North Carolina for a few years past have had no real interest in the welfare of the State, at least the very few exceptions thereto, have been too busy receiving the rewards of their infamy to give much thought for a people they have attempted to dishonor and then to rob.

Now that the more guilty of these offenders have been punished or fled the State, and their confederates have been driven from the control of the Legislative Department, and there has been time for reflection and a calm survey of the field it will be well for North Carolina if her Chief Executive will give heed to the warning voices of the people and respect their feelings and listen to their grievances. They have and are suffering sorely, and Governor CALDWELL cannot afford to turn a deaf ear to their lamentations because the offenders are his political friends, and the grievances partly of his own making. Most of our troubles, whether the offenders are white or black, Democrats or Republicans, are the immediate echoes of bad laws and of bad officials—the results of a bad government.

We are not desirous of making Governor CALDWELL unduly responsible for this condition of affairs. We believe that but for the countenance and support of such North Carolinians as himself, Rodman, Dick, Pearson, Reade, Settle, and a few others, the wicked plot of the carpet-baggers to degrade and rob North Carolina would have been abortive, and our condition now would have been much better. Governor CALDWELL must at least be satisfied with his course, if he has his ambition. He has been promoted, and now occupies a position which ought to gratify his pride and which should call forth all the better qualities of his head and heart.

Again we ask the Governor to read our correspondent's letter. It will do him no harm if it may do him some good.

Read—A Plot in South Carolina.

The Augusta Chronicle says that Governor SCOTT having gone North, RANNEY, the negro Lieutenant Governor, formed a plot for depositing him in his absence. He made secret preparations for calling an extra session of the Legislature on twenty-four hours' notice, and had the articles of impeachment drawn and ready for adoption. By some means, CHAMBERLAIN, a friend of SCOTT, got wind of the conspiracy, just as it was about to be executed, and succeeded in frustrating it.

Jefferson Davis.

We were not among those who were so eager to reproach JEFFERSON DAVIS for sentiments uttered in a public speech at Atlanta that we could not wait for his explanation, but preferred rather to accept the interpretation placed upon his words by those who revile him and hate us. We chose rather to protest against this interpretation. We denounced the purposes to which they put his words. We regret that there were Southern papers which were deceived into lending their influence to the vicious designs of our political enemies, whether their credulity arose from an over-cautious timidity or from selfish remembrances of forgotten grievances. Unfortunately there are always men who cannot forget, even in great national calamities and amidst almost universal suffering, their petty disappointments and aspirations—who cannot separate their prejudices from their public duty as citizens.

It could not have been expected that JEFFERSON DAVIS could have discharged his duty as President of the Confederate States, in a time of war, without incur-

ring the displeasure of many and the hatred of a few. Nor should we be disappointed that some of these at least would greedily seize the opportunity which defeat gave to make him the scape-goat of all our misfortunes, if for no better reason than to cover up their own shortcomings. The calamities of his capture could not shut their mouths, nor the cruelties of Fortress Monroe touched their sensibilities. Even WASHINGTON, at the close of a successful "rebellion," was beset with slanderers and secret enemies, who filled columns of the newspapers and distributed pamphlets in order to destroy his influence and to detract from his good name.

It is not our purpose to defend the course of JEFFERSON DAVIS while President of our struggling Confederacy, or since the close of the unhappy war. He needs no defense. History will take care of it. The scenes of the struggle are too fresh in our memories. Our hopes, our aspirations, our sufferings, our defeat, our present condition control our judgment too much to bear impartial testimony. We must leave it to the decision of posterity. But while his admirers reserve their judgments those who dissent should also remain silent. One thing is quite sure that if his conduct in the past or in the present is to be made a party question—if the Southern people must necessarily denounce him to prove their fealty to party or their patriotism to the country—then is Southern unity destroyed. We are willing to do a great deal to preserve the integrity of our party, and submit to much to defeat Radical tyranny and despotism. We will approve the platform and vote for the candidates of our Northern friends, but we will not sacrifice our manhood, nor defame our beloved leaders. We may see their errors and deplore them, but we prefer to shield them with our affection rather than exaggerate them to our enemies.

None could have regretted more than we that Mr. Davis should not have preserved that dignified silence on political subjects which had so long marked his public course, not from anything which he has said, for he gave utterance to nothing which might not have fallen unrebuked from the lips of any patriot, but because he could have said nothing which would not have been misconstrued and distorted, and used to injure the very people for whom he would willingly pour out his heart's blood.

We did not require his explanation to see that in his Atlanta speech he did not counsel the Southern people, directly or indirectly, not to abide the situation, or that he advised even remotely a revival of armed resistance, or that anything which fell from his lips was tinged with disloyalty to the Government. His advice, then, and his explanation now, was to encourage our people to bear their trials with patience, to bow meekly to the majesty of the law—not surrender their manhood, but rather to wait patiently until the returning good sense of the Northern people brings about a reversal of the more obnoxious features in the recent Congressional legislation. We honor him for his sentiments, whatever may be our opinion of the policy of the advice.

We ask no one to endorse our views upon this subject. They come from one who followed the fortunes of the "lost cause" from the Peninsula to Appomattox. They are not political—they are not of the present, but of the past. We find fault only with those who desire to make the denunciation of JEFFERSON DAVIS a test of party fealty and loyalty to the government. We deprecate such an issue, but if forced upon us against our solemn protest, then are we false—to party and country.

Immigration.

The subject of immigration should command more attention in North Carolina than of late has been bestowed upon it. In the midst of the canvass, which is now upon us, we should not forget that there are other interests requiring attention. True it is that a good State Constitution, and good, well-executed State laws, an effective common school system, and good universities will be sure and certain means for the promotion of immigration; but there is more than this required. Information as to all parts of our State must be disseminated in other States and countries, and amongst that class of people who would be most likely to be benefited by removal, and who would be of greatest benefit to the general good.

To this end not only the newspapers and periodicals should frequently bring the subject prominently before the public, but associations should be formed, properly officered and organized; funds should be raised for their support and, if no other course can be followed successfully—if as associated effort shall fail—the State itself should be enlisted in the cause, as what will result in bringing her good citizens will also have its reflex influence in backing the burdens of her citizens lighter. For example, suppose the present population of North Carolina could be doubled within the next two years, with a class of immigrants who are all producers, the effect would be to divide the taxes out amongst a larger population and would make it easier for all. With our present numbers the burden of our State debt is almost unbearable. It will take many years to pay it, but in proportion, as our lands are filled up, just in that proportion does the debt become easier.

It is somewhat diverging from the course we intended when beginning this article, but perhaps it is as well to allude to it at once, as to wait longer. The people should be fully informed that one of the chief ends which may be obtained by calling a Convention now is that the trial may be made to fund the debt of the State in such a manner that its burden shall be made light for us and our posterity. Gov. Holden states the debt in round numbers as \$24,000,000. The interest on which is in round numbers \$2,250,000. We have from time to time purchased the rates of interest current now in Great Britain, and in

fact, in nearly all parts of Europe. This week the current rate, as quoted by London exchanges, is for funded and well-secured debts from 1 1/2 to 2 per cent. per annum. The British Consols pay 3 per cent. only. With the Constitution of North Carolina fixed on a firm, free basis, with every right secured to every citizen, with her high, proud, honest name restored to her, bonds in any market could be sold at the lowest rate of current interest. So that it would be but reasonable to suppose that the could fund her debt at not over 4 per cent. per annum, which would save annually over one million of dollars; and this sum must be drawn from the people by taxation, unless this is done. There is no time for delay. The complications of European politics are such that this, the favorable time may pass, and not return for many years.

But to come back to the subject in hand—immigration—we want societies formed this summer, fully organized so as to be acting all next winter in anticipation of the crop of next year. And we do not want any half way men in the matter. We want men who are in the habit of succeeding in any matter they undertake, and they must have some plans adopted which shall secure their services for the whole of their time, whether at home or abroad. They should be the servants of the organization, by whatever name it may be called, just as the officers of the Railroads or Banks are the servants of their respective corporations.

We have not time to-day to enlarge this subject; it shall have our attention again in a few days more fully.

We did not publish the card of Mr. CONGOLAND to the Salisbury Old North State, because we preferred to make an editorial reference thereto, and from no desire to do injustice or misrepresent that paper in any way. And we think we did them with our affection rather than exaggerate them to our enemies. We have never entirely agreed with the editor in political matters, and never before have we regretted it so much, for we would have the Old North State as an ally in this contest with much pleasure. Our differences, however, have not lessened our personal regard for the editor. Under no consideration would we knowingly do him an injustice. We suspect that in this instance, he is a little too sensitive.

The Puritans Across New York Ninth Regiment and the Bostonians.

It appears that the "famous" Colonel James Fisk, Jr., of New York and Erie, intended visiting Boston with his regiment, in all the pomp and circumstance of holiday soldiers, on an excursion, next Sunday, but the Methodist and other ministers of "the hub" protested to Gov. Claflin and requested him to prevent any Massachusetts troops from joining in the reception of Fisk or in any way countenancing his proposed breach of decorum. A petition to the same effect was numerously signed by the pious citizens of Boston, who have resolved that, "except in times of war, there can be no reason for the reception of troops of any part of the regiment, in all the pomp and circumstance of holiday soldiers, on an excursion, next Sunday, but the Methodist and other ministers of "the hub" protested to Gov. Claflin and requested him to prevent any Massachusetts troops from joining in the reception of Fisk or in any way countenancing his proposed breach of decorum. 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